

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

International Application No.: PCT/EP04/001667
International Filing Date: February 20, 2004
Priority Date: March 25, 2003
Title: RETRACTABLE STEP
Inventor(s): Andreas TAZREITER

10/550012

BOX PCT
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Barnes & Thornburg Customer No:

23646

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

REQUEST TO BEGIN NATIONAL EXAMINATION

Sir:

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated Office after publication and before 30 months from the priority date the following items under 35 U.S.C. § 371:

- I. This is an express request to immediately begin national examination procedures under 35 U.S.C. § 371(f).
- II. A Preliminary Amendment, including a Substitute Specification and a marked-up copy of the Substitute Specification (17 pages). Please enter the Preliminary Amendment before calculating the filing fee.
- III. The filing fee is calculated below:

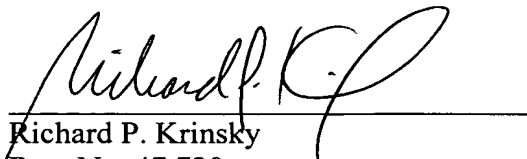
CLAIMS AS FILED, LESS ANY CLAIMS
CANCELLED OR ADDED BY AMENDMENT

For	No. Filed		No. Extra	Small/Large Entity	Total
National Stage Basic Fee:				+\$300/150=	\$ 300.00
National Stage Search Fee:				+\$500/250	\$ 500.00
National Stage Examination Fee:				+\$200/100	\$ 200.00
Total Claims:	6	- 20 =	0	x \$50/25 =	\$ 0.00
Independent Claims:	1	- 3 =	0	x \$200/100 =	\$ 0.00
TOTAL FEES:					\$ 1000.00

10/550012

REC'D PCT/PTO 2-3 SEP 2005

- IV. A check for the filing in the amount of \$1000.00 is enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 02-1010 (566/44299).
- V. An English Translation of the International Application PCT/EP04/001667, including 4 sheets of 5 Figures (11 pages).
- VI. Information Disclosure Statement and PTO-1449 with 6 references.



Richard P. Krinsky
Reg. No. 47,720
Barnes & Thornburg LLP
750 17th Street, N.W., Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 289-1313